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Message Text

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51
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 PA-03

PRS-01 AID-20 L-03 H-02 DPW-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /137 W
---------- 126377
O R 191200 Z JUN 73
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4627
DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL UDORN
USDEL JEC PARIS
USIA WASHDC
SECDEF
USDAO SAIGON
DIRNSA FT GG MEADE MD
CINCPAC
CINCUSARPAC
COMUSMACTHAI
DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI
CINCPACFLT
CINCPACAF
CDR USSAG NKP
CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN
388 TFW KORAT
DODSPECREP BANGKOK
DODSPECREP NKP
CHSPECACTS BANGKOK
7 ACCS KORAT
354 TFW KORAT RTAFB
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56 SOW NKP
432 TRW UDORN
CDR JCRC NKP
8 TFW UBON
ARMA/ AIRA VTN LAOS
ARMA/ AIRA SVKT LAOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 4472

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD; 13 AF ADVON, 432 TFW, 56 SOW, 388 TFW, 354 TFW AND 8 TFW FOR DO/ DI; MACTHAI FOR J-2 AND PAO

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA
SUBJECT: LAO SITUATION REPORT - 19 JUNE 1973

REF: VIENTIANE 1120

I. MILITARY SITUATION

A. MR I: IN FAR NORTHWEST, FRIENDS FIRED ON ENEMY TROOPS OBSERVED SOME 30 KM SOUTHEAST OF BAN HOUEI SAI ON 14 JUNE (NO CASUALTIES REPORTED).

B. MR' S II, IV AND V: NO GROUND ACTION REPORTED DURING PERIOD 17-18 JUNE.

C. MR III: MINOR ENEMY ATTACK NORTH OF SENO RESULTED IN ONE FRIEND WIA ON 18 JUNE. THERE WERE TWO MINOR CLASHES WELL EAST OF KENGKOK ON 17 JUNE (ONE ENEMY KIA, TWO WIA). ON 15 JUNE, ENEMY SHELLED AND PROBED OUTPOST APPROX 20 KM EAST OF THAKHEK (ONE FRIEND WIA). LOSSOF SAN SOA((REFTEL) WAS MAJOR INCIDENT, INVOLVING ESTIMATED TWO- COMPANY ENEMY ATTACK AFTERNOON 15 JUNE (0900 Z) VICINITY VF 623-565. ONLY RLAF ACTION COUNTRYWIDE WAS SINGLE A -47 SORTIE IN SUPPORT OF FOREGOING KENGKOK AREA ACTION DURING NIGHT 17-18 JUNE.

II. POLITICAL SITUATION

A. OFFICIAL LAO PRESSE, JUNE 19, REPORTED THAT PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA, REPLYING TO A WRITTEN QUESTION FROM AN AFP
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CORRESPONDENT, SAID THAT RLG AND LPF ARE NOW " DISCUSSING THE PRINCIPLES AND THE MODALITIES OF SETTING UP TWO ZONES IN LAOS." ENGLISH VERSION OF AFP WIRE ON INTERVIEW OPENED WITH PARAGRAPH SAYING: " PREMIER SOUVANNA PHOUMA SAID TODAY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LEFTISTS WERE NOW EXAMINING A PLAN TO DIVIDE THE COUNTRY INTO TWO ZONES AS A MEANS OF ENDING THE CIVIL WAR WHICH HAS BEEN RAGING HERE FOR YEARS." THIS LEAD WAS NOT INCLUDED IN FRENCH-

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LANGUAGE AFP WIRE AND SOUVANNA' S WRITTEN ANSWER WAS SIMPLY AS REPORTED IN LAO PRESSE. (COMMENT: IT WOULD BE UNCHARACTERISTIC FOR SOUVANNA TO IMPLY ACCEPTANCE OF A DIVIDED LAOS, AND SOUVANNA APPARENTLY WAS MERELY REFERRING TO ARTICLE 10 OF VIENTIANE AGREEMENT, WHICH PROVIDES FOR " ZONES OF TEMPORARY CONTROL" PENDING HOLDING OF ELECTIONS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION. END COMMENT)

B. ON JUNE 11, SOVIET AMBASSADOR VDOVINE PRESENTED FOUR VEHICLES, INCLUDING TWO JEEPS, TO THE LPF REPRESENTATION IN VIENTIANE. AFTER THE CEREMONY, THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED WITH ALL AGREEMENTS SIGNED REGARDING LAOS AND IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE VIENTIANE 1973 AGREEMENT IN ORDER THAT LAOS HAVE " TRUE FREEDOM AND PEACE." (COMMENT: STATEMENT IS USUAL SOVIET LINE.)

C. RLG SENIOR NEGOTIATOR PHENG PHONGSAVAN AND LPF SENIOR ADVISOR PHOUMI VONGVICHIT TODAY HAD THEIR 4 TH MEETING SINCE JUNE 15. THE NEGOTIATORS HAVE DISCUSSED THE FORMATION OF THE NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT (JUNE 15), THE JOINT NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL (JUNE 16), THE DURATION OF THE MANDATE OF THE NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT, THE COMPOSITION OF JOINT NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL AND TIMING FOR ELECTIONS FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (JUNE 18), AND WERE SCHEDULED TO TAKE UP THE NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG TODAY (JUNE 19) . THE NEGOTIATORS ARE ENCOUNTERING DIFFERENCES ON ALL SUBJECTS, ONLY A FEW OF WHICH, HOWEVER, APPEAR TO BE MAJOR OBSTACLES TO EVENTUAL AGREEMENT.
DEAN

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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To: BANGKOK
CIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
EA
MOSCOW
PARIS
PHNOM PENH

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SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
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